

one of the largest school districts in the State of Texas. During his tenure as Superintendent, United ISD earned an "A" rating by the Texas Education Agency two years in a row. In addition, and more importantly, Mr. Santos earned the respect and trust of his colleagues and the many people he helped during his tenure.

Mr. Santos's success as superintendent undoubtedly comes from the experience he gained serving in various roles for United ISD, including: Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, Director for Human Resources, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. The skills he acquired through these different positions enabled him to have the tools he needed for when he eventually became superintendent in 2005.

Over the course of his many years in public education, Mr. Santos attained numerous awards and recognitions. He is the recipient of the "Unsung Heroes Award" by the Laredo Next Generation Rotary Club; Future of Texas Award; Laredo Diploma Plus Foundation Leadership Award; Imaginarium "Image Award"; Latin American International Hall of Fame; Border Olympics Honorary Director; Martin High School Tiger Legend; LULAC Council No. 12 Tejano Achiever; Gateway to Mexico All-Sports Clinic Hall of Honor; American Cancer Society Relay for Life Honorary Chairman and March of Dimes Honorary Chairman.

I want to congratulate Mr. Santos on his service to the United Independent School District. His compassion, hard work, and leadership has molded an essential institution for the community, driving local economic and academic prosperity in Laredo. As we move forward, let us take the time to appreciate Mr. Santos and all the educators who dedicate their lives to preparing the next generation for becoming valuable members of society. However, in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the career and service of Superintendent Roberto J. Santos.

ROScoe D. CUNNINGHAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to remember Roscoe D. Cunningham—a remarkably accomplished man who made an unforgettable impact in Lawrence County, Illinois in his 97 years.

Roscoe was born on September 15, 1923 to Roscoe and Bessie Cooper Cunningham. He graduated from Sumner High School in 1941, a place which instilled his love of learning and ability to quote poetry. He, then, attended the University of Illinois, but put a halt on his degree to serve in World War II European Operations. He proudly served in the United States Army, Rainbow Division 4th Operations as a forward Observer with the artillery division where he was involved with the aeronautical observation of the dropping of bombs on enemy locations. In 1946, Roscoe was honor-

ably discharged from active duty with the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Returning to U of I, Roscoe earned a JD from the School of Law and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1948. He practiced law in Lawrence County for over 72 years. Roscoe proved to be a strong community leader, dedicating his life to bettering his community in Lawrence County. He was considered one of the county's most vocal advocates and, in 2018, was awarded the Key to the City by Lawrenceville. He also participated extensively in state and national politics, serving as the States Attorney for four terms, the Illinois State Legislature for four terms, and Delegate to the Republican National Convention for three sessions. As an Illinois State Representative for the 54th District, Roscoe also proved to be a vocal advocate for his district. It is noted that he spoke eloquently from the House Floor and he could capture a room's attention. Roscoe was also involved in more than 20 election campaigns throughout the years and he enjoyed meeting with and helping constituents.

Roscoe married Kathryn Suzanne Cunningham on May 1, 1954. They shared 64 years of marriage and raised five children. Roscoe was frequently seen riding bikes with his children and/or grandchildren. At 87, he continued to bike from Sumner to Olney in support of the Special Olympics.

Striving to better his community, Roscoe prioritized community service. He was especially proud of establishing and advancing the Cunningham's Golden Age Club No. 1. His favorite Bible verse was Luke 9:62 which reads, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." These words inspired Roscoe to re-establish the hometown newspaper in his later years. The sections he created have led to The Sumner Press's legacy as the longest running, locally owned newspaper in Southern Illinois. Roscoe was an active member at First Christian Church for 66 years. He recognized the importance of Sunday School and spent many years teaching Sunday School to participate in the education of young students in their faith. He was a member of many community organizations, including the Lawrence County Shrine Club, Lawrence County Republicans, and a lifetime member of the V.F.W. Post 2244, to name but a few among his expansive list of which he was a member.

Madam Speaker, I take this time to recognize a true agent of change in Lawrence County. Lawrence County will surely miss him, but they are left with his incomparable legacy.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE OUR HOMES OUR VOTES ACT

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Our Homes Our Votes Act along with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mary Gay Scanlon. This bill will help close the voter turnout gap between rich and poor by making it easier for eligible tenants in federally subsidized housing to register to vote.

People have fought and died for the right to vote in this country, but many still face barriers

to voting. Tenants in federally subsidized housing already have their residence and identity verified by public agencies, and this bill will allow them to register to vote as they sign their lease without duplicating information or finding additional paperwork to fill out.

The best way to confront this country's history of voter suppression is to remove barriers to voting that exist today. Eligible voters in working class districts like mine vote at lower rates than wealthier voters, and that discrepancy undermines our democracy. This bill is a step toward fixing that, and I urge this body to advance it.

#### ALS DISABILITY INSURANCE ACCESS ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 578, the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act. I'm proud to be a cosponsor of this important legislation that enjoys overwhelming bipartisan support in the Congress.

This bill ends the five-month waiting period for people with ALS to access Social Security Disability. For some in the country, a five-month wait would not be a great burden, but for those with ALS, which is fatal, many die waiting, never receiving the benefits they earned by paying into Social Security.

ALS is an aggressive neurodegenerative disease that robs people of their muscle movement, their employment, and their lives in a brief time following diagnosis. By ending the harmful waiting period, this bill will allow Americans who face an ALS diagnosis to immediately receive the Social Security benefits they've earned and deserve.

I salute my friend and colleague, Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE for authoring this important legislation and I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill and for the President to immediately sign it into law.

#### TRIBUTE TO UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CHARLES HALL AND STEVE STOLTE

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to Union County Commissioners Charles Hall and Steve Stolte, who will retire at the end of 2020 after many years of outstanding service to the people of Union County.

A lifelong resident of Leesburg Township, Charles Hall has been a county commissioner since 2005 and currently serves as Vice President of the Board. He studied business at Northern Illinois University and Butler University, later joining his brother in machinery sales in Marysville. Charles and his wife of more than fifty years, Peggy, are the parents of three, the grandparents of nine, and the great-grandparents of two. They are members of Richwood United Methodist Church.